

BACK COVER PHOTOGRAPH. A NASA Terra satellite image of Hurricane Isabel as it made landfall across North Core Banks, North Carolina on September 18, 2003. Isabel was a category 5 hurricane while at sea, but slowed and diminished in intensity as it approached North Carolina. It came ashore as a category 2 storm with about a 6 to 8 foot storm surge and 100 mph winds. The storm opened Isabel Inlet (front cover) adjacent to Hatteras Village and came within minutes and/or inches of opening additional inlets between Avon and Buxton and on the northeast end of Ocracoke Island.